

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 24, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment and following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. Claims 1-6 and 27-30 are allowed. Claims 7-9, 12, 13, 16, 20, 21, and 24-26 stand rejected. Claims 10, 11, 14, 15, 17-19, 22, and 23 are objected to. Claims 10, 14, 21, 22, 25, and 26 have been canceled.

The rejection of Claims 7, 12, 13, 20, 21, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gur et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,838,815) "Gur" is respectfully traversed.

Gur describes a method of detecting abnormal regions in a digital radiograph that includes for each identified suspected abnormal region, extracting multiple topographic layers of the region from the digital radiograph, determining features of the region in each of the layers, and applying inter-layer multivariate non-linear criteria to the features to determine whether the suspected abnormal region is to be classified as an abnormal region. The method includes a rule-setting phase wherein a CAD scheme is optimized using a database of known images and a use or application phase wherein new images are analyzed by the CAD scheme.

Claim 10 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 7 has been amended to include all the limitations of Claim 10 and Claim 10 has been canceled. There are no other intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 7 is patentable over Gur.

Claims 8, 9, and 11 depend from Claim 7. When the recitations of Claims 8, 9, and 11 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 8, 9, and 11 likewise are patentable over Gur.

Claim 14 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim

and any intervening claims. Claim 12 has been amended to include all the limitations of Claim 14 and Claim 14 has been canceled. There are no other intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 12 is patentable over Gur.

Claims 13 and 15-19 depend from Claim 12. When the recitations of Claims 13 and 15-19 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 12, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 13 and 15-19 likewise are patentable over Gur.

Claim 14 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 12 has been amended to include all the limitations of Claim 14 and Claim 14 has been canceled. There are no other intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 12 is patentable over Gur.

Claims 13 and 15-19 depend from Claim 12. When the recitations of Claims 13 and 15-19 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 12, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 13 and 15-19 likewise are patentable over Gur.

Claim 22 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 20 has been amended to include all the limitations of Claims 21 and 22, and Claims 21 and 22 have been canceled. There are no other intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 20 is patentable over Gur.

Claim 23 depends from Claim 20. When the recitations of Claim 23 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 20, Applicants submit that dependent Claim 23 likewise is patentable over Gur.

Claim 24 recites a method for detecting an anomaly including “performing a volumetric CT scan of an object...generating at least one digitally reconstructed radiograph (DRR) from the volumetric CT scan...supplying the DRR to a radiographic computer aided detection (CAD) algorithm...determining a confidence level of the CAD algorithm...iteratively performing a volumetric CT scan, generating at least one DRR,

providing the DRR to the radiographic CAD algorithm, and determining a confidence level of the results until the confidence level exceeds a threshold.”

Gur does not describe nor suggest a method of displaying data as recited in Claim 24. Specifically, Gur does not describe nor suggest determining a confidence level of the CAD algorithm and iteratively performing a volumetric CT scan, generating at least one DRR, providing the DRR to the radiographic CAD algorithm, and determining a confidence level of the results until the confidence level exceeds a threshold. Rather, in contrast to the present invention, Gur describes a method of detecting abnormal regions in a digital radiograph wherein the method includes a rule-setting phase where a CAD scheme is optimized using a database of known images and an application phase wherein new images are analyzed by the CAD scheme. Accordingly, and for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 24 is submitted to be patentable over Gur.

For at least the reasons above, Applicants respectfully request the § 102 rejection of Claims 7, 12, 13, 20, 21, and 24 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 8, 9, 16, 25, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gur et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,838,815) “Gur” is respectfully traversed.

Claims 8 and 9 depend from Claim 7, which as described above is in condition for allowance. When the recitations of Claims 8 and 9 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 8 and 9 likewise are patentable over Gur.

Claim 16 depends from Claim 12. When the recitations of Claim 16 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 12, Applicants submit that dependent Claim 16 likewise is patentable over Gur.

Claims 25 and 26 are canceled.

For the reason set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 8, 9, 16, 25, and 26 be withdrawn.

The objection to Claims 10, 11, 14, 15, 17-19, 22, and 23 as dependent upon rejected base claims is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7 has been amended to include all the limitations of Claim 10 and Claim 10 has been canceled. There are no other intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 7 is patentable over Gur.

Claim 11 depends from Claim 7. When the recitations of Claim 11 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 7, Applicants submit that dependent Claim 11 likewise is patentable over Gur.

Claim 12 has been amended to include all the limitations of Claim 14 and Claim 14 has been canceled. There are no other intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 12 is patentable over Gur.

Claims 15 and 17-19 depend from Claim 12. When the recitations of Claims 15, and 17-19 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 12, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 15, and 17-19 likewise are patentable over Gur.

Claim 20 has been amended to include all the limitations of Claims 21 and 22, and Claims 21 and 22 have been canceled. There are no other intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit Claim 20 is patentable over Gur.

Claim 23 depends from Claim 20. When the recitations of Claim 23 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 20, Applicants submit that dependent Claim 23 likewise is patentable over Gur.

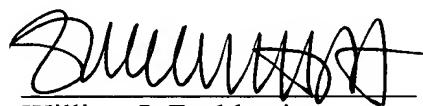
Applicants according request that the objection to Claims 10, 11, 14, 15, 17-19, 22, and 23 be withdrawn.

Express Mail No. EV679278660 US

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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